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OurValley.org

G.W. Carver Elementary recognized as Virginia Blue Ribbon School

Aila Boyd

aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

G. W. Carver Elementary School has been formally recognized as a Virginia Blue Ribbon School by the Virginia Board of Education, following the school’s nomination to the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program by the Virginia Department of Education.

Although the U.S. Department of Education

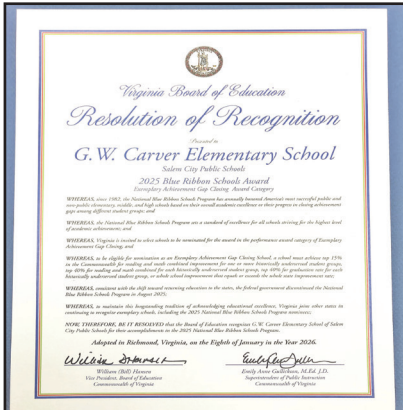
discontinued the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program in August 2025 because of federal budget reductions, the Virginia Board of Education acted to preserve the tradition of recognizing high-performing schools. On Jan. 8, 2026, the board adopted a Resolution of Recognition honoring Virginia schools that had been nominated for the 2025 program.

Since its creation in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon

Schools Program has honored schools nationwide for overall academic excellence and for progress in closing achievement gaps among student groups. G. W. Carver Elementary was nominated in the Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing category, which recognizes schools demonstrating significant improvement in reading and mathematics outcomes for historically underserved students.

At its Feb. 10 meeting,

the Salem City School Board formally recognized G. W. Carver Elementary School for being selected as a Virginia Blue Ribbon School and commended the school community for its dedication to educational excellence. Board members also cited the accomplishments and performance of the school’s students, faculty, staff and leadership in advancing academic achievement and reducing achievement gaps.



COURTESY PHOTO

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program certificate

High school students protest at farmers market



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem High School students gather at the Salem Farmers Market on Monday to protest United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, holding signs and encouraging passing motorists to honk in support. About 50 students participated, according to those at the scene. Several officers from the Salem Police Department monitored the event; Salem High Resource Officer Mark Stuart said the students were well behaved and caused no problems.

Salem Museum to host indigenous history symposium

The Salem Museum will host the first Totero Town Symposium on Saturday, Feb. 28, a free daylong event exploring the Native American history of the Roanoke Valley.

Organized by the Headwaters Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia in partnership with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Virginia Museum of Natural History, the symposium will run from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the museum.

In 1671, European explorers Thomas Batts and Robert Fallam documented an encounter with Totero Town, a village believed to have been located in present-day Salem. The settlement was home to Eastern Siouan-speaking members of the Tutelo tribe. Centuries later, the village site was rediscovered during archaeological excavations at what is now the James I. Moyer Sports Complex.

More than 30 years after those excavations, the symposium will reunite archaeologists involved in the original dig with Native American scholars and researchers to share new insights,

discoveries and artifacts.

The program will begin at 10:30 a.m. with complimentary coffee provided by Bean Bliss Coffee Bar. Visitors are invited to explore the museum’s two Totero Town exhibits before lectures begin.

The lecture schedule includes:

- 11 a.m.: Dr. Michael Barber of the Longwood Institute of Archaeology, “Six Events that Changed the Trajectory of Native American Cultures in Virginia: A Punctuated Equilibria Approach.”
- Noon: Dr. Elizabeth Moore of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, “Totero Town, Ethnozoology and the Deerskin Trade: Adaptation and Agency in a Time of Change.”
- 2 p.m.: Dean Ferguson, president of the Headwaters Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia, “Reconstructing the Monacan Village at Natural Bridge: The Archaeological Record’s Interface with Public Outreach.”
- 3 p.m.: Drs. Hayden Bassett and Madeleine Gunter-Bassett of the Virginia Museum of Natural History,



COURTESY PHOTO

A picture of a Totero Town arrowhead discovered in Salem.

“Riverine Settlement and Aquatic Resource Use in Late Woodland Virginia.”

From noon to 3 p.m., Dale’s Diner Express food truck will offer lunch and refreshments on site.

The Salem Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

-The Salem Times-Register

Barn fire in Catawba causes \$150,000 in damage

Aila Boyd

aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

A commercial barn fire outside the Homeplace Restaurant last Thursday morning caused an estimated \$150,000 in damage but resulted in no injuries, according to Roanoke County Fire and Rescue.

Crews responded at 9:51 a.m. Feb. 12 to the 4900 block of Catawba Valley Drive in the Catawba area for reports of a structure fire. First-arriving units from Company 10 in the Masons

Cove area reported heavy fire and smoke coming from a barn on the property and declared a working fire at 10:03 a.m.

The blaze was brought under control in about 20 minutes. No people or animals were injured, and no one was displaced as a result of the fire.

The restaurant posted the following message on Facebook, “We want to reassure our community that no one was harmed, and all animals are safe. The fire did impact the barn on the

property; however, the restaurant itself was not affected. While this is a setback in some ways, it does not impact our planned April opening.”

The Roanoke County Police Department assisted with traffic control at the scene.

The Roanoke County Fire Marshal’s Office determined the fire was accidental and contained to the barn. Officials said the blaze was caused by the use of a torch to discolor wood inside the structure. No injuries or fatalities were reported.



COURTESY PHOTO

Nicely poses with “STEM Century: It Takes a Village to Raise a 21st-Century Graduate.”

Roanoke County superintendent contributes to new national STEM education book

Aila Boyd

aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Ken Nicely, superintendent of Roanoke County Public Schools, recently contributed to a new book highlighting innovative approaches to STEM education in school systems across

the country.

The book, STEM Century: It Takes a Village to Raise a 21st-Century Graduate, was released through a collaboration between AASA, The School Superintendents Association and 21stCenturyEd. It features chapters

See **Book**, page 6

Salem Area Ministries distributes nearly \$25K to support school feeding programs

Aila Boyd

aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Salem Area Ministries has distributed nearly \$25,000 in grant funding and community donations to support local feeding initiatives, including school food pantry programs serving students and families in the Salem and Glenvar areas.

The funding was provided through partnerships with the Community Foundation Serving Western Virginia, the Edgar A. Thurman Charitable Foundation for Children, Salem Moose Lodge Family Center 2573, the Presbytery of the Peaks through its Two Cents-A-Meal grant, the Salem Rotary Club and the The Louise R. Lester Foundation.

Grant funds will be used to purchase food and essential supplies for participating school food pantries, helping ensure that at-risk and economically disadvantaged students and their families have dependable access to

nutritious meals. Funding allocations are based on each school’s enrollment and the percentage of students identified as economically disadvantaged.

“On behalf of the SAM Board of Directors and our many partner churches and community organizations, we are deeply grateful for the generosity that makes this work possible,” said Garry Lautenschlager, administrator of Salem Area Ministries. “Together, we are blessed to support local children and families experiencing food insecurity. Our most precious asset is our children, and this investment helps ensure they are nourished, supported, and able to thrive.”



Briefly: Salem News In Brief

The Losers Club: Held at the Salem Center but not just for seniors. All adults are welcome. Every Tuesday 5 – 6 p.m. No registration fee with \$3/ month dues. Contact: Charlene Lester 540-293-7753.

Cannabis and the Criminal Justice System: Monday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. Join us for a timely, thought-provoking conversation about the local and national impact of cannabis reform, led by veteran attorney Will Thompson. As federal authorities shift cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule III classification, what does it really mean for the criminal justice system and for everyday Americans? Thompson offers an insider's perspective on those questions and more, drawing on his experience working at all levels of government to shape drug policy and legal interpretations. For a link to this online talk, click here. This event is part of the Distinguished Speakers in Cannabis Lecture Series co-sponsored by the Roanoke College Cannabis Studies Program and the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Peggy Haas Howell: Acclaimed organist Peggy Haas Howell will present a solo organ recital at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 42 E. Main Street, Salem, VA 24153, on Friday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.

Cannabis and Longevity: Monday, March 23, 7:30 p.m. Dr. Farzana Kennedy, a pharmacist and leader in the medical cannabis dispensary movement, has spent years exploring the intersection of cannabis and health care. Her current focus is on understanding how cannabis

can support longevity, a timely question as Baby Boomers and Gen Xers emerge as fast-growing groups of cannabis users. Join her for an insightful look at the science, trends, and potential health benefits of cannabis across the lifespan. For a link to this online talk, click here. This event is part of the Distinguished Speakers in Cannabis Lecture Series co-sponsored by the Roanoke College Cannabis Studies Program and the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Better Babies, Better Life?: Thursday, March 26, 7 p.m. Colket Center, Wortmann Ballroom. Enhancing our children's genes: moral obligation or travesty? In this year's Crumley Lecture from the Benne Center for Church & Society, Dr. James Peterson explores a life-changing ethical question that has presented itself. Dr. Peterson, an internationally known ethics expert, is a professor emeritus whose work focuses on both medical and religious ethics. He's been extensively published, including authoring or contributing to over a half-dozen books, and was the longtime editor of the journal Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith.

The Candidates by Robert Munford - A Staged Reading at the Salem Museum: The Salem Museum is excited to host a staged reading of Colonel Robert Munford's "The Candidates; or, The Humours of a Virginia Election - A Comedy in Three Acts" on Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. Written and set in the early 1770s on the eve of the American Revolution, this farcical tale about a Virginia House of Burgesses election satirizes

the corrupt campaigning culture of the day. With stinging critiques of electioneering and witty dialogue to boot, Munford's three act comedy will be put on in the Roanoke Valley for the first time ever through a staged reading at the Salem Museum. Volunteer Steve Aaron will lead this production, and is actively seeking participants to read for numerous characters. If interested in reading a part or volunteering on the project, please contact the Salem Museum via phone at 540-389-6760 or via email at info@SalemMuseum.org.

Black Label Society: Heavy metal powerhouse Black Label Society will bring its blistering riffs and high-energy performance to the Salem Civic Center on Tuesday, May 12. The band will be joined by openers Zakk Sabbath and Dark Chapel. Tickets can be found at the Salem Civic Center box office and through Ticketmaster.

Gary Allan in concert — Multi-platinum country artist Gary Allan returns to the Salem Civic Center on Saturday, May 16, 2026, at 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale Friday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. at the Salem Civic Center Box Office and at Ticketmaster.com. Ticket prices range from \$14.92 to \$134.75. A presale will be held Thursday, Feb. 5, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Ticketmaster.com with the code RUTHLESS.

The Dandelion Tour — Ella Langley will perform at the Salem Civic Center on Thursday, June 25, at 7 p.m., with special guests Dylan Marlowe and Gabriella Rose. Tickets range from \$53.50 to \$123.50 and go on sale Friday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. Tickets are available at

the Salem Civic Center box office, open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and online at Ticketmaster; additional fees may apply to online purchases.

Public meetings:
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 23.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on March 9.
The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on March 10.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on March 23.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 13.
The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on April 14.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 27.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on May 11.
The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on May 12.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on May 26.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on June 8.
The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on June 9.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on June 22.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on July 13.
The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on July 14.
The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on July 27.

Cline votes for bill requiring proof of citizenship for voter registration

U.S. Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va., voted Feb. 12 in favor of H.R. 22, known as the SAVE America Act, legislation that would require proof of citizenship to register to vote in federal elections.

The bill, introduced by Chip Roy, would also require valid photo identification to vote, mandate in-person verification of citizenship during voter registration, and direct states to remove noncitizens from voter rolls.

In a statement, Cline said he supported the measure as a way to strengthen election security. "The SAVE Act is a crucial step in preserving the integrity of our elections," Cline said. "Ensuring that only U.S. citizens participate in federal elections is a commonsense safeguard that upholds

the rule of law and strengthens public confidence in our democratic system."

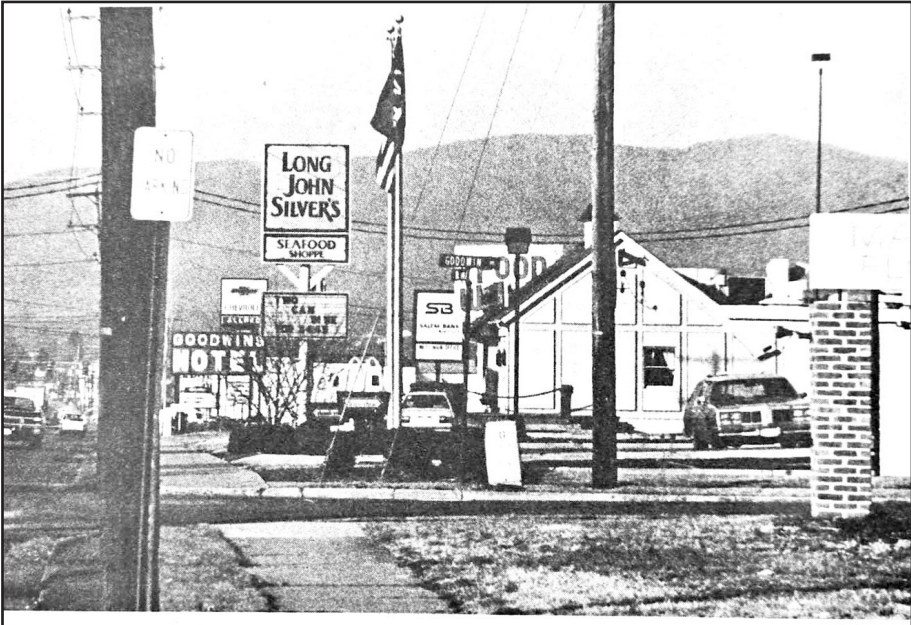
Supporters of the legislation argue that requiring documentary proof of citizenship would close gaps in the voter registration process, including situations in which noncitizens may obtain state-issued identification such as driver's licenses. Voting in federal elections is limited under federal law to U.S. citizens, though enforcement of proof-of-citizenship requirements has varied by state.

Cline represents Virginia's 6th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

-The Salem Times-Register

FROM THE ARCHIVES

West Main improvements still slated for 1987 completion, officials say.



FROM THE TIMES-REGISTER ARCHIVES

By Mary King, staff writer

Congestion on West Main and Fourth streets in Salem should be reduced by 1987 with the anticipated completion of three highway projects.

In 1984, the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation approved the five-laning of West Main Street from Fourth Street to Texas Hollow Road and the four laning of Fourth street from West Main Street to Elm Avenue. This year, the department approved a \$3 million project to extend the five-widening lane of West Main Street to the west city limits.

Anticipated cost of the projects is expected to be \$8.1 million. The cost will be shared by federal, state and city governments.

According to B.W. Sumpter, the Salem District engineer for the Department of Highways and Transportation, the department expects to bid the projects in May 1986, with construction beginning in July. He said construction is expected to continue through 1986 and probably into 1987.

On Fourth Street, plans are to widen the street to four lanes, beginning at

West Main Street and extending .4 miles southeastward to Elm Avenue. Estimated cost of this project is \$1.3 million.

On West Main Street, plans are to improve the existing facilities to provide for two, twelve-foot-wide lanes for each direction of traffic, separated by a 12-foot-wide left turn lane. Estimated cost of these projects which will stretch 1.6 miles from Fourth Street to Texas Hollow Road and .8 miles from Texas Hollow Road to the West City limits is \$6.8 million.

Roanoke County also attempted this year to have the five-laning of West Main Street extended from Salem's west city limits to Rt 612 in Roanoke County but the Highway commission did not include the project in the six-year plan.

Sumpter said the project was tentatively approved by the commission and would be given serious consideration next year.

-Prepared by Shelly Koon

VDOT ROADWATCH

INTERSTATE 581

INTERSTATE 581 EXIT 2N AT PETERS CREEK ROAD – Work is underway on this \$4 million project to re-align and signalize the exit 2N ramp from northbound I-581 to northbound Peters Creek Road, eliminating the current merge ramp and making it easier for drivers to access Valleypointe Parkway. One lane each direction will remain open during work. During spring and summer 2026, the current exit ramp will be narrowed as construction begins on the new exit ramp. Construction is expected to be completed in late fall 2026.

- **LANE CLOSURES:** Drivers can expect intermittent lane closures, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Peters Creek Road northbound and southbound in the city of Roanoke between Valleypointe Parkway and Thirlane Road NW through mid-March.

I-581 PATCHING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will perform paving and patching operations. Lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound, Sunday through Thursday, during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

ROANOKE COUNTY

ORANGE MARKET PARK AND RIDE LOT TO CLOSE FOR IMPROVEMENTS - As a result of a project to improve two parking lots at Orange Market and the roundabout on Route 311/Route 419 in Roanoke County, drivers will need to seek alternate parking options during construction. This project will include paving and striping both parking lots including an area for the McAfee Knob shuttle stop. On Friday, January 23, the larger Orange Market Park and Ride Lot will close. The smaller Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail at Orange Market Lot, located at the entrance to Orange Market and closer to Route 419, will remain open. Once the first park and ride lot is completed, approximately March 2026, the lot at Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail at Orange Market will close for construction for the duration of the project with expected completion in summer 2026.

Commuters are encouraged to seek alternative parking options during these closures and should not leave parked vehicles on the lot as towing will be enforced. Drivers can use the existing Orange Market Alternate Parking Lot across the street and accessible off of Route 311 (Thompson Memorial Drive) across from the park and ride lot or may seek alternate park and ride locations such as the I-81 Exit 140 Park and Ride. For more information on park and ride locations, visit <http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/parkride/home.asp>.

ROUTE 11 PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS – This project has just started on Route 11 (Williamson Road) to add pedestrian safety improvements. A southbound lane closure will be in place on Route 11 (Williamson Road) until sidewalk is completed in May 2026. Message boards will alert drivers to traffic impacts.

- **LANE CLOSURE:** Weather permitting, a lane closure will be in place on either Wednesday, February 18, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Plymouth Drive at the intersection with Williamson Road as part of this project.

ROUTE 220/ROUTE 419 DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERCHANGE - The Route 220/

Route 419 interchange project is underway. It will be reconfigured with a diverging diamond concept and multiple intersections on both Route 220 and Route 419 will be modified to enhance signal timing and reduce congestion. The intersections that include Route 220 are at Valley Avenue/Southern Hills Drive, Crossbow Circle/Pheasant Ridge Road, Buck Mountain Road/Stable Road and Indian Grave Road/Clearbrook Village Lane. The intersections on Route 419 are at Ogden Road, Elm View Road and South Peak Boulevard. With multiple activities scheduled, completion at different locations will take place throughout the life of the project. Daytime, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and nighttime, 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., work hours will occur depending on location. Drivers should expect alternating lane closures, turn lane closures and shoulder closures. Expected completion is fall 2028.

ROUTE 220 AT CROSSBOW CIRCLE&PHEASANT RIDGE ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – Construction activities for this project are underway starting with removing the existing curb along the outer perimeters followed by removal of concrete medians. Drivers should use caution in the area and watch for work zones and message boards providing updated information.

- **NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN** in place. Instead of driving straight across Route 220, Crossbow Circle/Pheasant Ridge, drivers turn left or right to make U-turn.

ROUTE 220 AT SOUTHERN HILLS & VALLEY AVENUE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – Construction activities for this project are underway starting with lane closures during nighttime hours from 7 p.m. until 6 a.m. the next morning, Sunday night through Friday morning. Shoulder closures possible during daytime hours.

- **NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN** with signal is in place at Route 220 and Southern Hills Drive/Valley Avenue. Instead of driving straight across Route 220, Southern Hills Drive/Valley Avenue 14 drivers now turn left or right to make U-turn.

BOTETOURT COUNTY
ROUTE 43 UTILITY WORK – Drivers can expect a flagging operation to be in place on Route 43 between Springwood Road and Main Street for utility work through February 2026.

ROUTE 11 LANE SHIFT AND CLOSURE - Drivers should expect several impacts to Route 11 for various projects that are underway.

- Route 11 northbound will have an outside lane closure between Route 772 and the I-81 ramp through February 2026 for fiber installation.

CRAIG BOTETOURT SCENIC TRAIL BRUSH CUTTING AND STABILIZATION WORK - Residents along the former Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Craig Valley Branch railroad in Botetourt and Craig counties may notice maintenance work continuing on the old railroad. These activities are intended to prevent additional deterioration and to help designers who are developing plans for the Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail. VDOT continues to collect d23ta and conduct site visits and field reviews on the railroad. The design plans for Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail are still being refined and a specific schedule for construction has yet to be determined.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

As I do when it is cold outside, I tend to cleanout closets. After watching my friend go through her mom’s very full house, I don’t want to leave a mess for my friends so I am going through keepsakes and paring down.

During this week’s cleanout, I came across a bookmark I used every day in the 80’s. It was Garfield the cat. Before Grumpy Cat became a meme and before meme’s were a thing, there was Garfield. I had a lot of Garfield merchandise. He was everywhere! I even had a Garfield doll stuck to my car’s rear window. Garfield is an American comic strip created by Jim Davis. Originally published locally as Jon in 1976, then in nationwide syndication from 1978, it chronicles the life of the title character Garfield the cat, Odie the dog, and their owner Jon Arbuckle in Muncie, Indiana.

Garfield is an overweight orange tabby cat known for his cynicism, sarcasm, and laziness. He is famous for his love of lasagna and his intense hatred for Mondays and diets.

While Garfield is highly cynical and intelligent, his physical appearance has made him the ultimate mascot for a popular 2025 "orange cat" meme. This viral internet theory is that all orange cats share a single brain cell, leading them to be famously clumsy, lazy, or "glitched". Modern memes often feature large, lazy orange cats (often called "chonks") doing things like staring blankly at food or failing at simple physical tasks, directly channeling Garfield’s lethargy and orange-cat aesthetic.

For many 1980s kids, a major ritual was racing to the newspaper for the "funny pages" or lying on the floor reading the long, rectangular compilation books. In November 1982, Garfield collections occupied 7 of the 15 spots on the New York Times trade paperback bestseller list simultaneously. The first book, Garfield at Large (1980), remained #1 for two solid years. The 79th book is due out in 2026.

Growing up with Garfield in the 1980s meant experiencing a character at the absolute peak of "Garfield pandemonium," when the lasagna-loving cat was a dominant global icon of consumer culture. For children of that decade, Garfield was omnipresent—on

television, in bookstores, and on almost every conceivable piece of merchandise. By 1981, Garfield had already sold over \$15 million in merchandise. Creator Jim Davis intentionally designed Garfield to be the most marketable character ever, leading to an onslaught of products. Garfield appeared on school supplies, mugs, posters, T-shirts, and even branded underwear.

Garfield’s favorite food is lasagna because he was born in Mama Leone’s Italian restaurant kitchen. Although his second favorite food is pizza since it is easier to get delivered. He is a heavy coffee drinker, preferring it strong and caffeinated. He has a major sweet tooth for donuts, pies, ice cream, and pudding. He has a massive appetite but he really hates raisins (he compares them to fly droppings), anchovies, spinach, lettuce, fruitcake, and grapefruit.

If you like Garfield chances are that you value your own comfort as a sacred priority. Garfield the cat appeals to people because he functions as a feline alter ego or "everyman" who shamelessly indulges in human weaknesses like overeating, sleeping, and laziness, which readers can relate to without the associated guilt. Garfield has the courage to say and do things that people wish they could but generally do not. His sarcastic remarks and deadpan charm allow readers to live vicariously through him.

I think a lot of us recognize portions of ourselves in Garfield. If we had someone else feeding us and providing a roof over our head like Garfield does, we would probably be happy to lie around all day, dreaming of lasagna and complaining about Mondays too.

Here are two recipes from the Garfield cookbook from Gooseberry Patch, “Recipes with Cattitude!”. Lasagna of course is one and the other is mocha party cake which combines chocolate and coffee with a sweet creamy frosting.

I think Betsy channels Garfield daily!

Simple Lasagna Casserole (Instructions for Instant Pot and Crock Pot!)

Ingredients

- 16-ounces UNCOOKED whole grain pasta, any shape



COURTESY PHOTOS

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ cup buttermilk
- 2 eggs beaten
- ½ cup chopped pecans

Instructions

Combine flour and sugar in a large bowl; set aside. In a saucepan over medium heat, combine coffee, butter, shortening and cocoa. Bring to a boil; remove from heat. Slowly stir coffee mixture into flour mixture. Add remaining ingredients except pecans; mix well. Pour batter into a greased and floured 13” x9“ baking pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 25 minutes or until center tests done with a toothpick. Remove from oven; immediately spoon Hot Cocoa Frosting over cake. Sprinkle with pecans.

Hot Cocoa Frosting

Ingredients

- ½ cup butter
- ¼ cup baking cocoa
- 6 Tablespoons milk
- 16 oz pkg. powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Instructions

In a saucepan over medium heat, combine butter, cocoa and milk; bring to a boil. Add powdered sugar and vanilla. Stir until smooth.

- 1-pound cooked hamburger meat
- 50-ounces spaghetti sauce
- 1 cup water
- 16-ounces cottage cheese
- Sea salt to taste
- 2 cups shredded cheese (your favorite)

Instructions

Stir uncooked pasta, spaghetti sauce, water, cooked meat, sea salt, and cottage cheese in a crock pot or instant pot. Cook as follows: Crock Pot: Cook on low for 3-4 hours. Instant Pot: Cook on Manual at high pressure for 5 minutes. Once time is up for either Crock Pot or Instant Pot, stir mixture and top with cheese, covering dish so the cheese will melt. Serve!

Mocha Party Cake

Ingredients

- 2 cup all purpose flour
- 2 cup sugar
- 1 cup brewed coffee
- ½ cup butter
- ½ cup shortening
- ¼ cup baking cocoa
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

OBITUARY

Petersen, Ellen D.

Ellen D. Petersen, of Salem, Va., passed away peacefully in the presence of family and friends on February 9, 2026. She was preceded in death by her husband E. B. “Pete” Petersen, her parents Rev. Paul and Alice DuBois and her sister Lois Roberts. Surviving members of the family include her two sons; David B. Petersen and his wife Joetta of Blacksburg, and Roger A. Petersen and his wife Nancy, of Chesapeake, Va.; and her daughter Ann Babula and her husband Jerry, of Goodview Va. She leaves seven grandchildren, Paul Petersen and his wife Heather, Diane Schline (Petersen) and her husband Matt, Kevin Petersen and his wife Julie, Amy Michals (Petersen) and her husband McLean, Mark Petersen and his wife Racheal, Charles Wilson and his wife Tina, and Randy Hartman; as well as 10 great grandchildren, Damien Wilson, Carson Michals, Camden Michals, Madison Michals, Grace Michals, Owen Petersen, Wyatt Petersen, Landon Schline, Blake Schline, and Graham Schline.

She was a native of Jacksonville Illinois, born over 100 years ago on April 12, 1925. She graduated from Murrayville High School, earned her Bachelor of Arts degree with a music major from



MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois and later received additional education at Western Illinois. During her early years, she worked in a candy factory in Illinois and during World War II, she worked in an airplane factory to support the war effort. She met her husband when she started teaching music in his hometown of Morrison, Illinois. She taught music in Illinois for 3 years. They moved to Salem in 1955 when her husband was transferred from Schenectady N.Y. by General Electric. Over her many years as a Salem resident, she taught dozens of children piano lessons, and for more than 30 years, she was a choir director for two Salem area churches: Wildwood Presbyterian on Wildwood Road and Locust Grove United Methodist Church in West Salem. Upon retiring from directing choirs, she joined and became a long-time member of First United Methodist Church on Main Street in Salem.

What Ellen was best

known for was serving as a substitute teacher, first with Roanoke County and later with Salem schools for 45 years. She became particularly fond of the teachers, staff and students at Salem High School. She found joy in teaching young people into her 80’s and found herself teaching the children of some of the students she taught in her earlier years. Over the years, there were few places she could go without running into former students who greeted her with smiles and hugs. In her free time, she was a seamstress and was famous for her delicious cherry pies made with cherries picked from a tree in her backyard.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the Ellen Petersen Scholarship fund with the Salem Education Foundation, or to First United Methodist Church, 125 W. Main St., Salem VA 24153.

Funeral Services will be held at First United Methodist Church, Salem, at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, February 13, 2026, with Reverend Alan Combs officiating. Interment will follow at Sherwood Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at Lotz Funeral Home, Salem from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday February 12, 2026. Condolences may be sent to www.lotzfuneralhome.com

POLICE REPORT

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Arrest Report

Week of February 3, 2026 – February 9, 2026

2/4/2026	Eric M. Mullins	28	Public Intoxication, Trespassing, Obstructing Justice
2/5/2026	April A. Arrington	35	Damage Property, Public Intoxication
2/5/2026	Kenneth L. Campbell Jr.	42	Public Intoxication
2/7/2026	Logan T. Mason	20	Underage Possession of Alcohol
2/7/2026	Cody J. Phillips	20	Underage Possession of Alcohol
2/7/2026	Cameron L. Moore	19	Underage Possession of Alcohol, Public Intoxication
2/8/2026	Miderlens A. Delius	21	Fail to Stop
2/9/2026	Corey L. Wright	32	Brandishing, Concealed Weapon Violation
2/9/2026	Amber D. Hancock	37	Fail to Appear

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of February 3, 2026 – February 9, 2026

DATE REPORTED	LOCATION	OFFENSE REPORTED
2/3/2026	900 BLK Camelot Dr	Grand Larceny
2/3/2026	800 BLK Brushy Mountain Dr	Grand Larceny
2/3/2026	2300 BLK Roanoke Blvd	Grand Larceny
2/3/2026	1900 BLK Electric Rd	Grand Larceny
2/9/2026	400 BLK E Main St	Grand Larceny

OPINION

From District 4

The 2026 General Assembly Regular Session has hit its critical midpoint – the Crossover deadline. With the exception of the two-year budget that will be unveiled next Sunday, each chamber may now only consider legislation already passed by the other chamber until the scheduled *Sine Die* adjournment on Saturday, March 14.

Bipartisan Career & Technical Education Bills Advance

Among the bills “crossing over” are thirteen of my own



David Suetterlein

Senator

Senate bills including two that expand career and technical education access. Senate Bill 10 expands apprenticeships and other work-based learning opportunities for 16+ year old students in information technology and culinary fields. This legislation is strongly backed by our local

Chamber of Commerce and local public schools. I’m optimistic that the success of these programs will allow us to further expand opportunities in other fields in the near future.

SB203 cuts through red tape to make it easier for more community college career and

technical instructors to be able to also teach high school students with less significantly less hoops. Both SB10 and SB203 won strong bipartisan support and are now under consideration in the House of Delegates.

Democrats pass 16.3% Tax on Hunting Virginia Senate Democrats, on a narrow party line vote, passed a constitutionally-dubious new 11% tax on all firearms and ammunition - in addition to the existing 5.3% general sales tax.

The same Senate Democrats blocking GOP efforts to eliminate the remaining grocery tax while advancing increased



COURTESY PHOTO

Farmers from Floyd, Montgomery, and Roanoke visited with Senator Suetterlein last week.

taxes on prepared foods are now also making it significantly more expensive to hunt.

Gerrymandering Referendum Set 3/6 –

4/21

The Virginia Supreme Court declined to take up the legally dubious

See Sutterlein, page 6

SIXTH DISTRICT PERSPECTIVE

Safeguarding Our Elections with the SAVE America Act

The right to vote is the most fundamental privilege of American citizenship, and protecting that right is a constitutional obligation. Yet in recent years, Democrats have failed to take common sense steps to ensure that only eligible American citizens cast ballots in our elections. The American people know that securing the integrity of our elections is not an extreme position. Despite overwhelming public support, 213 House Democrats could not agree on the basic principle that voters should verify their identity before casting a ballot. Regardless of party, Americans want their election safeguarded; the numbers prove this very fact. Surveys show that 83% of Americans support requiring a photo ID to vote, including 71% of Democrats, 82% of Hispanic Americans, and 76% of Black Americans. These numbers demonstrate that voter ID is not a partisan issue.

This is exactly why I cosponsored the SAVE



Ben Cline

Congressman

America Act, which passed by the House last week. Our elections demand commonsense safeguards. Not even one illegal vote should ever cancel out the voice of a citizen. The SAVE America Act requires proof of citizenship for voter registration. This legislation includes a voter ID requirement to register to vote. Our democratic process depends on free, fair, and secure elections. Americans must have full confidence that their votes carry equal weight and that our elections are protected from abuse. Allowing individuals to vote without verifying their identity diminishes the voices of lawful voters and opens the door to illegal aliens influencing our elections. Requiring voter ID is simple, reasonable, and consistent with everyday practices. Americans already show identification to open a bank account, drive a car, board an airplane, or purchase a home. Election integrity should meet the same

standard. Now the bill moves to the Senate, where it awaits consideration. The American people deserve to hear a full debate and know where their senator stands on this basic commonsense principle.

Hosted Attorney General Pam Bondi for Judiciary Committee

This week on the House Judiciary Committee, I questioned Pam Bondi during oversight of the Department of Justice about public safety and the tools law enforcement need to keep Virginians safe. As she made clear, one of the most dangerous MS-13 gang members in the country was hiding in our Commonwealth, and the 287(g) partnership helped lead to his capture by working hand in hand with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and local officers. I raised serious concerns that ending these agreements under Governor Abigail Spanberger strips law enforcement of a proven resource, which was rescinded in a matter of days upon her taking office. When cooperation between federal and state authorities is dismantled, it is the people of Virginia who bear the dire consequences of that policy shift. Attorney General Bondi is doing critical work to restore the rule of law, back the men and women on the front lines,

See Cline, page 5

Salem Times~Register

A newspaper of, by and for the people of the City of Salem and Roanoke County.

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PUBLISHER

Michael Showell

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Aila Boyd — aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Brian Hoffman — bhoffman@ourvalley.org

ADVERTISING CONSULTANT

Wendi Craig — advertise@ourvalley.org

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Debbie Nixon — dnixon@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Lingjie Gu lingjie@mountainmedianews.com

Give us your view: aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Times-Register encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Times-Register reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Golf scores
5. Shock therapy
8. Ballplayer's tool
11. Quench one's thirst
13. Female relatives of American war vets (abbr.)
14. Every one of two or more things
15. Member of Muslim people
16. Play
17. Type of cheese
18. Type of lounge chair
20. ___ King Cole, musician
21. Fellows
22. North, Central and South
25. In an early way
30. Foes
31. Georgia rockers

CLUES DOWN

32. Cryptocurrency
33. Narrow path along a slope
38. Disallow
41. Joyousness
43. Inaccessible
45. Evoke emotions
47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
49. Boston Celtic punk rockers (abbr.)
50. Sword
55. Actor Idris
56. Affirmative (slang)
57. Afflicted
59. One point north of northeast
60. Born of
61. Arabic name
62. Traumatic brain injury (abbr.)
63. Extremity
64. Post

CLUES DOWN

1. Pacific Standard Time
2. Protruding ridge on nematodes
3. Indian king
4. Type of milk
5. One who brings home the bacon
6. More comprehensible
7. Connected with sense of touch
8. Red mineral
9. Breezed through
10. Therefore
12. Supplement with difficulty
14. Early kingdom of Syria
19. Satisfy
23. They confuse doctors (abbr.)
24. Brass instrument
25. Domesticated animal
26. Ribonucleic acid

CLUES DOWN

27. Snakelike fish
28. Woman (French)
29. Economically-minded aircraft
34. When you hope to get somewhere
35. Tease
36. Actress Gretchen
37. Midway between northeast and east
39. Inoffensive
40. Yellowish cotton cloth
41. Consume
42. Does not tell the truth
44. Improved something
45. Spiritual leader
46. Abba __, Israeli politician
47. Fix
48. Evergreen tree genus
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. Major C. European river
54. Long, narrow strap
58. Male parent

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Cline

from page 4

and ensure states have the resources they need from the federal government to drive crime rates down. Her focus on enforcement has been proven to help communities like our own, and I hope the Governor reconsiders her elimination of this critical partnership.

In addition, I also questioned Attorney General Bondi about the ongoing federal registration requirement for firearm suppressors. Recently, my provision included in H.R. 1 eliminated the unconstitutional \$200 NFA tax on suppressors. However, law-abiding Americans are still required to register these items with the federal government, which seems inconsistent now that there is no longer a tax. I asked whether, absent the \$200 tax, a continued registration requirement is justified and that if citizens are no longer paying a fee, why should the burdensome registration remain? Congress must ensure that federal policy is coherent. I hope to see that the remaining federal registration requirement on suppressors is eliminated so the law fully reflects congressional intent and eases this burden on law-abiding citizens.

Local Media Highlights I-81 Funding

Interstate 81 is the backbone of western Virginia’s economy and one of the most important freight corridors on the East Coast. Last week, I had the pleasure of speaking with several members of the local media to highlight the

progress we have made and the targeted funding I secured through the transportation appropriations bill to support improvements along this critical route. For years, our local community has called for meaningful upgrades to address congestion on this crowded interstate and this investment is an important step toward delivering long overdue solutions. The funding I secured will be directed to the Commonwealth, which will ultimately determine which specific projects receive these targeted resources based on the most urgent needs and long-term planning priorities. That partnership ensures decisions are made closest to the communities affected while still delivering strong federal support to move these improvements forward.

The impact will be felt across the region, from Winchester to Bristol, where expanding capacity and modernizing infrastructure along I-81 will help first responders, commuters, and the trucking industry alike while positioning the Shenandoah Valley and Southwest Virginia for continued growth. I will

keep fighting to ensure our Commonwealth receives the investments it needs, and I remain committed to working with state and local partners to deliver funding for improvements on I-81 that keep Virginia moving forward. Check out my Facebook page to see all the media highlights from last week and read my op-ed in Cardinal News on this \$17 million funding.

Making the American Dream More Attainable

The goal of homeownership remains a cornerstone for millions of Americans across the country. Currently, the supply of homes has not kept up with demand, leaving the nation short by as many as 5.5 million homes. Rising construction costs, regulatory delays, and outdated zoning rules have made it even harder to build new homes. Additionally, small and medium-sized banks that provide construction loans are struggling due to complicated regulations. Last week, I voted in favor of the bipartisan Housing for the 21st Century Act, which is designed to increase the supply of homes, such as single-family homes, apartment buildings, and other

factory-built housing. This legislation eliminates unnecessary red tape, modernizes federal housing programs, and streamlines banks’ ability to offer construction financing.

The bill expedites the construction of new homes by allowing builders to utilize pre-approved home designs, flexibility which accelerates the permitting process. It also modernizes and streamlines federal and local housing procedures, supporting both rural and urban communities in expanding the availability of affordable homes. The Housing for the 21st Century Act also revises HUD programs to accelerate homebuilding and broaden financing options. The bill strengthens local banks’ capacity to issue housing loans by expanding access to stable deposits for community and rural banks, enabling them to better support households, farmers, and small businesses. Additionally, it provides regulators with the flexibility to address banking challenges without adversely impacting local communities.

The Housing for the 21st Century Act is a comprehensive plan that will make it easier to build homes, providing Americans with more affordable housing choices nationwide.

Increasing Cancer Early Detection Screening

Too many cancers are detected only after they have progressed to advanced stages when treatment options are limited and outcomes are far more difficult for patients. Currently, 70% of cancer deaths occur from cancers that have no recommended screening, meaning there are no standard tests to detect them before symptoms appear. Under current law, it could take more than a decade before Medicare gains the authority to cover the cost of new screenings. These screenings are medical tests designed to find cancer before symptoms develop. Medicare coverage would only begin once the tests are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act addresses this by creating

a pathway for Medicare to cover multi-cancer early detection (MCED) screenings. These tests can detect multiple types of cancer at once and would be covered once approved by the FDA.

As a co-sponsor, I supported this bipartisan legislation because it provides a much-needed solution for Medicare by addressing a current gap in coverage for multi-cancer early detection tests. This ensures greater access to earlier detection for patients and improves outcomes by catching cancer before it metastasizes and becomes more fatal. The legislation supports cutting-edge science while preserving an evidence-based process to guarantee that these screenings are safe for patients. Now that the House has passed this legislation, I look forward to the Senate taking it up so that more Americans can gain access to lifesaving early cancer detection.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Congressman. If my office can ever be of assistance, please contact my Washington office at (202) 225-5431.

Correction

In the Feb. 12 edition of the Salem Times-Register, President Frank Shushok’s last name was misspelled in the eighth paragraph of the article

about the Salem City Council meeting. Also in the Feb. 12 edition, a headline about the new master of psychology program incorrectly

referred to the institution as “Salem College.” The reference should have been Salem college — “college” lowercase to reflect that it is a descriptor and not

part of the institution’s name. We regret the errors.

-The Salem Times-Register

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Book from page 1

from district leaders describing how intentionally designed STEM programs help students develop skills such as critical thinking, collaboration and problem-solving while preparing them for future careers.

Nicely helped write Chapter 4, which highlights Roanoke County’s Opportunity Ready Graduate initiative and the work of local students, teachers and staff.

“I am so proud of the Opportunity Ready Graduate work done by our

Sutterlein from page 4

portions of the proposed gerrymander until after the April gerrymandering referendum set by Governor Abigail Spanberger. The Court’s action was accompanied by news of a \$5 million pro-gerrymander ad campaign sponsored by unknown out-of-state contributors who want “fair elections” that will dilute the Roanoke and New River Valley’s influence in congressional election. Virginia voters will now have between Friday, March 6 and Tuesday, April 21 to cast their ballot to determine if Virginia’s anti-gerrymandering constitutional provisions will be suspended.

The Washington Post Editorial Board correctly points out, “The self-styled democracy party isn’t behaving democratically. Democrats in Richmond are trying to effectively disenfranchise millions of Virginians by redrawing congressional maps to give themselves 10 of the commonwealth’s 11 House seats – giving Democrats control of 91 percent of House seats in a state where Republicans lost the last presidential election by just six points.”

Former Fairfax Democratic State Senator Chap and former Roanoke

students, teachers, principals and staff in RCPS and am glad we have the chance to tell their story in Chapter 4 of this new book launched today,” Nicely said.

According to the publisher’s description, the book aims to inspire school leaders nationwide by sharing real-world examples of STEM education that make learning relevant, rigorous and connected to life beyond the classroom.

The book can be found on Amazon.

Valley Republican Delegate William Fralin have teamed up to lead a bipartisan effort to uphold the anti-gerrymandering constitutional provision adopted by voters by a two-to-one margin in 2020, on the same day President Biden was elected. Virginians can visit nogerrymanderingva.org to learn more about stopping the gerrymander that will reduce the Roanoke Valley’s influence.

Share Your Views & Track Legislation

You can share your views with me by taking the legislative survey at <https://tinyurl.com/2026VASurvey>, by emailing David@Suetterlein.com, or by calling 540-302-8486. You can read every bill and track votes through the Legislative Information System at <https://lis.virginia.gov>.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our Commonwealth.

Senator David Suetterlein represents the Roanoke and New River Valleys in the Virginia Senate. He and his wife, Ashley, live in Roanoke County, where their children attend public schools. David works as a Realtor at MKB, Realtors.

Salem School Board recognizes Mark Ingerson for VHSL Hall of Fame honor

Aila Boyd

aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Salem City School Board recognized Salem High School speech and debate coach Mark Ingerson during its Feb. 10 meeting following his selection to the Virginia High School League Hall of Fame.

Ingerson has led the Salem High School program for 23 years, coaching 20 VHSL state championship teams and helping build one of the nation’s most successful speech and debate programs. Salem’s speech team has won a state-record 19 consecutive VHSL state titles, and students under his direction have earned 103 individual state championships along with numerous runner-up finishes, according to information shared during the meeting.

Salem’s debate teams have also won state



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE STEVENS

Mark Ingerson with Salem School Board Vice Chair Teresa Sizemore and board member Macel Janoschka.

championships and have regularly placed at regional and super-regional competitions.

Ingerson’s work has received national recognition. He was named Outstanding Speech and Debate Educator of the Year by the National Federation of State High School Associations in both 2012 and 2025. Over his career, he has directed more than

100 tournaments and founded the Southwest Virginia Forensics League, an organization that has served thousands of students across the region.

School officials said Ingerson’s achievements reflect Salem High School’s tradition of excellence and his lasting impact on generations of students.

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ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
BETHEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD - 1683 Red Lane Extension, Salem, Va. Senior Pastor Jesse L. Bass. 540-580-7748. Sunday morning worship 10:30am. Wednesday night Bible Study “Facing your giants” 5:00pm

BAPTIST (INDEPENDENT)
THE BEACON BAPTIST CHURCH OF SALEM, 307 N. Bruffey Street, Salem, VA, and **THE BEACON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY K-12**, 307 N. Bruffey Street, Salem, VA, Phone: (276) 340-2445, Sunday Services: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m., Thursday Evening Services: 7 p.m. Find us on Facebook at: The Beacon Baptist Church or on the Web@bbcsalem.org. Pastor Jeremy Raby and the Congregation Welcome You! Independent, Fundamental, Bible Believing, KJV Bible Church
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH - 7th and Florida Streets, Salem VA. Pastor: Roger D. Counts, 540-389-3818. Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship 11:00 a.m., Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Night Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.
LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH - 447 Dalewood Avenue, Salem, 986-0062, Pastor Carl Goodman. Coffee Bar 9:00 a.m., Connect Groups 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Children & Student Ministry 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Thursday 7:00 pm Young Single Adults, Wednesday Morning Prayer Service 10:30, Lifegroups meeting throughout the week. www.lbcva.com.

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - 4339 Daugherty Road, Salem, Greg Irby, Pastor, Church: 380-3567; Home: 389-7240, Sunday School 10:00 AM, Worship Services 11:00AM & 6:00PM, Mid-week Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:00PM, www.templebaptch.com.

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)
BETHEL BAPTIST - 1601 S. Colorado St., Salem, Pastor Hilton Jeffreys, 389-2376, Sunday: Connect Groups meet at 9:30am; Worship Service starts at 10:30am. You can stream live with us at 10:30am on Facebook, YouTube, our App & Website (www.bethelbaptistva.com). Tuesday mornings we have Adult Bible Study at 9:00am.; Wednesday evenings at 6:15pm we have TeamKid for kids 3 years old through 5th grade, Amplify Youth (6-12th grade), Band of Brothers Men’s Bible Study and then our College & Young Adult Bible Study at 8:00pm. www.bethelbaptistva.com

MOUNTAIN PASS BAPTIST CHURCH - 311 Catawba Valley Dr., (Ro. Co.) Salem, VA 24153. Rev. Jack Richards, Jr., Pastor, Study 384-6720, Home 427-1508. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. with nursery available and children’s ministry, Ladies Mission Group.

RIDGEWOOD BAPTIST - 540-342-6492 703 Hemlock Rd NW Roanoke, VA 24017 Website: www.rwbcva.com Dan Carawan, Pastor, Sunday School 9:45AM, Morning Worship 11:00AM Wednesday Bible Study 6:00PM, Youth 6:30PM, UPCOMING: Happy New Year. Come join us for worship as we look into Time, Tithes and Talents in the month of January. More activities coming soon!!

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH - Salem Campus: 1226 Red Lane Extension (Salem). North Campus: 7640 Alpine Road (Roanoke). Español Campus: 1226 Red Lane Extension (Salem). Worship Times: 9:00 AM and 10:45 AM for Salem and North; 10:30 AM for Español. For more information, visit: www.fcclife.org

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GREENHILL CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN,

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2699 Harborwood Road, Salem, Interim Pastor J. Michael Varner, Phone: 540-389-5109. Facebook: “GREENHILLCOB,SALEM,VA”. Youtube: “ @greenhillcob4205”. Adult Bible Study, Sunday: 10 am. Sunday Traditional Worship, 10:45 am.

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SALEM CHURCH OF CHRIST - 401 West Main Street. 540-389-2400. Minister Taylor Plott; 10:00am Sunday Bible Study; 11:00am Sunday Worship Service; Wednesday Life Groups: 5:30 -7:00pm. For more info contact the Church Office.
WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST - 1705 Starview Drive, Salem. Ministers Luke Tatum and Jerry Anderson, 389-9139, Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 AM, Morning Worship: 10:30 AM, Evening Worship: 6:00 PM, Wednesday Bible Study, 7:000 PM.

CHURCH OF GOD/ANDERSON COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH - 955 Bird Lane, Salem, Va 24153, 389-5639. Pastor: Scott Hudson. Sunday School 10:00AM, Worship 11:00AM; Bible Study 6:00PM.

CHURCH OF GOD/CLEVELAND
SALEM CHURCH OF GOD - 600 Craig Avenue, Todd Stiffler, Pastor, 387-2068, Sunday School 9:30am: Worship and Kids Church 10:30 am, Wednesday Bible Study and Classes at 7:00 pm. www.salemcog.church

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 712 Front Ave. Salem, Pastor Dan Netting (540) 389-6831. www.firstchristiansalemva.com. Adult and Children Sunday School - 9:30 am, Worship - 10:30 am. Nursery Provided for both. Everyone welcome

FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 2931 West Main Street, Salem - Pastor Matthew Cox - 380-4636 - website: www.flccsalem.org. Sunday: 9:30am Adult Study Group, 10:30am Worship, Youth & Children’s Church. All are welcome!

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EPISCOPAL
ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 42 East Main Street, Salem, 389-9307. Rev. J. Edward Morris, Minister. Sundays at 7:30am and 10am. Holy Communion in church and live-streamed on YouTube@StPaulSalemVa.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
COLLEGE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - 210 S. College Avenue, Salem VA 24153. Please visit our website www.collegelutheran.org for information on services.

FOURSQUARE
the BRIDGE SALEM CHURCH - 4335 West Main Street, Salem. 540-404-1414 | bridge.salem@icloud.com • www.salemva.church Saturday service, 6pm (Nursery & Kids Church available). Mail: PO Box 1954, Salem. Twitter/Instagram: @thebridgesalem Joey Lyons, Senior Pastor | joey@salemva.church | 540-831-9864

INDEPENDENT
RESTORATION CHURCH - a Community on Mission Following Jesus into the World - 10:10am Sundays at the Salem YMCA - 1126 Kime Lane, Salem - 540-384-1601 - www.restorationsalem.org. Watch Live at: YouTube: Restoration Church-Salem, VA. Facebook: RestorationChurchSalem
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., INC.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 226 South Broad Street, Salem. Rev. Melton Johnson, 389-9648. Sunday School 9:30 AM, Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM.

SHILOH BAPTIST- 201 South Market Street, Salem, Rev. Adrian E. Dowell, H) (389-0409). Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. (All classes) via zoom and conference call line. Wednesday Adult Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. in person for adults, children and teens. Adult class is also streamed on Facebook. Men’s Bible Study Saturday at 7:00 a.m.(Zoom). Saturday Intercessory Prayer Service at 8:00 a.m. (conference call line). Sunday Women’s Bible Study Class at 8:30 p.m. (Zoom). In-person Worship on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. or worship with us on line via Facebook. Church office can be contacted for additional information.
PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

CHRISTIAN LIFE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH - 1 CLI Way, Salem, VA, 540-343-3801 | www.clichurch.org. Sundays @ 10 am | Wednesdays @ 7 pm. Livestream on YouTube & Facebook.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 41 East Main Street, Salem, VA . 389-3881. Come worship with us, Pastor, Rev. Chris Vogado each Sunday at 11:00 AM (10:00 AM from Memorial Day - Labor Day). In- Person Sunday School is 9:30 AM (9:00 AM Memorial Day - Labor Day). You may still worship with us online live at www.salempres.org, or Facebook, or YouTube. During in-person worship, masking for health reasons is optional.

UNITED METHODIST
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 125 W. Main St, Salem, VA. 540-389-5459. Pastor Alan Combs, Sunday: Genesis Contemporary Service at 8:45 a.m., Traditional Service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School classes meet at 9:50 a.m. www.fumcsalemva.org.

To list your church, contact Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email advertise@ourvalley.org



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Legals - Botetourt County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316;-317,20-104
Case No.W240000082
BOTETOURT COUNTY
CIRCUIT COURT, 205
NORTH ROANOKE
STREET, FINCASTLE, VA
24090
ESTATE OF CHARLES
PATRICK KANE
It appearing that a report of the account of Diana Tuck, Administrator of the Estate of Charles Patrick Kane, deceased, and the debts and demands against his estate has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, and that six (6) months have elapsed since the qualification of the Administrator on March 20, 2024.

On the motion of the Administrator, it is hereby ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested, in the Estate of Charles Patrick Kane do show cause, if they can, on the 4th day of March, 2026at 9:00 a.m. before this Court at its courtroom in Fincastle, Virginia, against the payment and delivery of the Estate of Charles Patrick Kane, deceased, to the distributees under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia with out requiring refunding bonds, subject only to the retention by the Administrator of sufficient funds to satisfy the remaining costs of administration.

Entered this 3rd day of February, 2026.
Tommy L. Moore, Clerk

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 1449 LAKERIDGE CIRCLE, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 4, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$175,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 060000421. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on March 19, 2026, at 10:30 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL THE APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING LYING AND BEING THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO WIT: BEING LOT 17, BLOCK 5, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OF RAINBOW FOREST, PROPERTY OF, BOTETOURT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MADE BY C.B. MALCOLM AND SON, S.C.E.'S, DATED AUGUST 15, 1960 OF RECORD IN TILE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 102. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of

Legals - Botetourt County

Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-372477-1.

Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE

J&D CULINARY GROUP LLC., trading as J'S DELI, 7 BROAD STREET, 3 WEST MAIN STREET, SALEM, VA 24153

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer Application – Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumes On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Jason Maxwell, Owner.

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code§§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316;-317,20-104
Case No.CL25000427-00
CITY OF SALEM
2 EAST CALHOUN ST
SALEM VA 24153
MICHAEL EUGENE MORAN
v.
AMBER NICHOLE MORAN,

The object of this suit is to: OBTAIN A DIVORCE
It is ORDERED that AMBER NICHOLE MORAN appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before April 15,2026
Entered January 9,2026
Stacy L. Owen
Deputy Clerk

Storage Auction

LEGAL NOTICE

A public auction will be held on Wednesday February 25, 2026 at 10 a.m. at Grand Storage of Vinton 1119 Vinyard Rd, Vinton, VA 24179, to sell personal property in the following units: Jeremy Thompson Unit C20 Linda McCraw Unit F11



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Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Rezoning request by LZM-BAM, LLC, Applicant and Property Owner, for an amendment to proffers on property located at 2886 Roanoke Street, identified as Tax Parcel 501 - ((1)) - 24A (Parcel ID 011123), consisting of approximately of 0.968 acres. The property is zoned General Business District (B-3) with proffers, and the request is to amend the proffers accepted with the 2001 rezoning action. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

B. Conditional Use Permit request by Rockstep Christiansburg LLC, Property Owner, to allow operation of a Carnival from March 26, 2026 through April 5, 2026 on the property located at 782 New River Road NW, Tax Parcel 435 - ((A)) - 41, Parcel ID 007741, zoned General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, by phone at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing for Monday, March 9, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter, at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to receive citizen comments on the proposed Ordinances Temporarily changing the A-3, E-3 and F-3 Precinct Polling Place from Squires Student Center located at 290 College Avenue, Blacksburg, Virginia, to McComas Hall located at 895 Washington St. SW, Blacksburg, Virginia, for the April 21,2026 Special Election Only.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Angela M. Hill
County Administrator

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 4366 BRADSHAW RD, ELLISTON, VA 24087.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated May 19, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$127,645.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 160003643. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on April 16, 2026, at 1:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: PARCEL 1: A PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 1.063 ACRES AS SHOWN ON A PLAT ENTITLED "PLAT FOR DAVID E. VANDER VLIET OF AN UN-NUMBERED 1.063 AC. LOT NEAR ROUTE 622 MT. TABOR MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA" PREPARED BY NEAL H.

WIRT, L. S., DATED 5 NOVEMBER 1992, DESIGNED AS PLAT NO. 92-688, WHICH PLAT IS OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 766, PAGE 561. PARCEL 2: A PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 5.153 ACRES AS SHOWN ON A PLAT ENTITLED, "SURVEY FOR DAVID E. & ALTHEA L. VAN DER VLIET OF A 5.153 ACRE PARCEL SITUATE IN. THE MT. TABOR MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA", PREPARED BY JACK G. BESS, C.L.S., DATED JULY 24, 1995, DESIGNATED AS N.B. W-9 0-95648, A COPY OF WHICH PLAT IS RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF MONATGOMERY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 886, PAGE 759. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.aldridgepte.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.aldridgepte.com. VA-372257-1.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE 945 Brooklyn Ave., Christiansburg, Virginia 24073 Tax Map No. 080-9 32 / Parcel ID No. 150446

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA

In execution of a credit line deed of trust dated June 30, 2022 (the "Deed of Trust"), recorded in the Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 022005240, the undersigned substitute Trustee, any or all of whom may act, will offer for sale at or near 945 Brooklyn Ave., Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, on March 6, 2026, at 12 o'clock p.m., property located at or near 945 Brooklyn Ave., Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, which property is more particularly described as follows: All that certain lot or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Shawsville Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows: Being all of Lot Number Thirty-Two (32), The Preserve At Walnut Creek, Phase IV, as shown and described on a plat of survey entitled, "PLAT OF MAJOR SUBDIVISION OF LOTS 1-13, 29-35 & ESMT. DEDICATION THE PRESERVE AT WALNUT CREEK," prepared by Gay and Neel, Inc., a copy of which is of record in the Circuit Court Clerk's Office of Montgomery County, Virginia at Instrument Number 2008011650 (the "PLAT"). This sale is subject to all liens, easements, restrictions, conditions, and reservations of record

Legals - Montgomery County

affecting the title to the property hereinabove described, to the extent any of them have priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.
TERMS AND CONDITIONS:
1.Registration: Bids will only be accepted from registered bidders. Your driver's license and a cashier's check or cash in the amount of 10% of the bidder's projected high bid will be required to register.
2.Deposit: The successful bidders will be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale immediately following the falling of the hammer, and a cashier's check or cash in the amount of 10% of the contract sale price, as described below, will be delivered to the Substitute Trustee. The deposits will be applied to the purchase price at closing. The deposit is non-refundable unless Seller is unable to convey marketable title. Closings are to take place within 30 days of sale. Time is of the essence.
3.Deed: The property will be conveyed by Special Warranty Deed.
4. Announcement: Announcements made on the day of sale, take precedence over all prior communications, both verbal and written, concerning the sale or the property.
5.Buyer's Premium: There will be a 5% Buyer's Premium in effect on the day of sale. The Buyer's Premium is added to the high bid amount, to determine the contract sale price.
6."As-Is, "Where-Is": The property is being sold "AS-IS", "WHERE-IS". Potential Buyers must perform such independent investigations with respect to the property as they deem necessary to verify information provided by the Auction Company or the Seller.
7. Advertisements: All information provided by Auction Company and the Seller is deemed reliable but is not warranted. The information contained in the advertisement brochure and any advertisements by Auction Company are subject to verification by all parties relying on it. No liability for its accuracy, error or omission is assumed by the Auction Company or the Seller.
8.Representations: Auction Company and its representatives represent the foreclosing party.
9.Bid Increments: Auctioneer reserves the right to set bid increments.
10.Lines on Photographs: The lines drawn on the photographs in the marketing materials are not exact. Refer to the survey for the actual property lines. Bryson J. Hunter, Peter M. Pearl, and Timothy J. Lovett, Substitute Trustees
For Information Contact:
Timothy J. Lovett, Esquire
tlovett@spilmanlaw.com
Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC, P.O. Box 90
Roanoke, Virginia 24002
540-512-1800 Telephone

STATEWIDE ADS

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Brown v. Board of Education SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Accepting Applications through April 12, 2026

The Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program was established by the General Assembly to provide educational opportunities for persons who were denied an education in Virginia between 1954 and 1964 due to the closing of the public schools during Massive Resistance. The scholarship is now available to those individuals and to their descendants. The program is open to eligible applicants for the 2026–2027 school year. For applications and information on eligibility, visit:

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PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Left, Salem's Mike Bateman heads to Richmond as the Region 4D 50 Freestyle champ. Right is the Glenvar boys Region 2C championship team. Front row, left to right, are Lincoln Boren, Landon Cairns, Avery Thompson, Darren Delby and Grayson Shearer. Middle row, left to right, Aspen Thompson, Bentley Crowe and Cooper Ermel. Back row; Carter Altice, Brendan Miller and Nikita Larin. Mason Young is not pictured.



PHOTO COURTESY GLENVAR SWIMMING

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE SWIMMING

continued from page 12

Thompson, Aspen Thompson, Miller and Landon Cairns took first in the 200 freestyle relay and the 400 freestyle relay team of Avery Thompson, Bentley Crowe, Aspen Thompson and Cairns closed the meet with another victory. All three relay teams had previously qualified for the state championship earlier in the season.

Individually, many Highlanders placed in the top eight and scored valuable team points. Brendan Miller placed second in both the 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle. Cooper Ermel finished second in the 200 freestyle and added another top-eight finish in the 100 butterfly. Darren Delby scored in the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke. Grayson Shearer placed in the 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly while Nikita Larin scored in the 500 freestyle and tied for fourth in the 100 breaststroke. Mason Young added points in both the 200 IM and 500 freestyle. Bentley Crowe scored in the 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle and Lincoln Boren added points in the 100

breaststroke.

For the girls the 200 medley relay team of Sophie Childers, Chloe Childers, Macy McMahon and Evelyn Gard placed fifth. The 200 freestyle relay team of Sophie Childers, Evelyn Gard, Chloe Childers and McMahon placed sixth and the 400 freestyle relay team of Sophie Childers, Gard, Lila Nicely and McMahon finished third, earning an automatic state qualification.

Individually, McMahon placed second in the 100 freestyle while Chloe Childers scored in the 500 freestyle and 100 breaststroke. Sophie Childers placed in the 200 freestyle, Lila Nicely scored in the 100 backstroke and Addi Cockram added points in the 100 butterfly.

“Our boys team is looking to carry momentum from the region meet to the state meet while the girls are looking to better last year’s finish at states,” said coach Shannon Hall. “It should be fun.”

RC wrestlers win 3 individual ODAC titles

Taven Williams, Kyle Lee and Brock Sullivan won individual championships last Saturday and nine Maroons reached the finals at the 2026 Old Dominion Athletic Conference wrestling championships, hosted by Shenandoah University in Winchester. Sullivan earned the championship's Most Outstanding Performer Award.

The Maroons had already captured the conference's team title, decided by regular-season compe-

tion. Individually, Sullivan won the crown at 197 pounds, scoring hard-fought 4-2 and 4-3 decisions. Williams took the title at 165 pounds, winning two matches by technical fall before pinning his Washington & Lee foe in the finals. Lee won two decision victories to bring home the title at 174 pounds.

The Maroons will next travel to Ada, Ohio on February 27 and 28 for the NCAA Regionals.

School records fall at Joe LaRocco Invt.

Roanoke College freshman DeShawn Austin and senior Dominic McCombs broke school records at the Joe LaRocco Invitational indoor track meet last weekend. The Maroons had six first place finishes in the meet at the Kerr-Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse in Salem.

Austin broke the school record in the long jump. His winning mark of 7.02m is currently good for third place in the ODAC and fourth in the NCAA South Region.

McCombs broke the program record in the pole vault, finishing second in the event at 4.37m. That height ranks fifth in the con-

ference and ninth and the region.

Elias Ammon won the 800m in 1:55.92, securing the second-fastest time in Roanoke annals. He currently ranks second in the conference and sixth regionally. Amari Carter ran a season-best time of 6.89 seconds to take first in the 60m, moving up to second in the ODAC and a tie for fifth in the South Region.

Roanoke also won the 4x400 relay, with Ammon, Max Cardwell, Mitchell Taylor and Lorenzo Camobreco crossing the tape in 3:23.66.

The Maroon women took the top two spots in the finals of the 60m hurdles, as Rebecca Carr

won the race in 9.05 seconds and Olivia Viers followed close behind at 9.16. Ophelia Ladner also set a personal record with a time of 9.08 seconds in the preliminary round. Carr, Ladner and Viers currently hold the top three times in the ODAC, and they all rank inside the top five in the NCAA South Region.

Nalonda Henderson won the 60m with a season-best mark of 7.87 seconds, which ranks second in the conference and ninth in the region.

The Maroons will compete at both the Rockingham Collegiate Classic and the Wittenberg Invite this weekend.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL STRAUSS

Halle Schart of Roanoke College won three events and was named Swimmer of the Meet at the ODAC meet.

Roanoke men are third, women fourth at ODAC swim meet

The Roanoke College men's swimming team took third and the women placed took fourth at the four-day 2026 Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Championships at the Greensboro Aquatic Center. RC senior Halle Schart was presented the Women's Swimmer of the Meet award when the even concluded Saturday.

Schart, from Mount Pleasant, S.C., won three events over the weekend: the 200 Individual Medley and the 100 and 200 backstroke. Schart swam on the fourth place 200 Medley Relay team with Julianna Morrow, Kate Pearson, and Claire Ballard.

Peyton Meyer won the 400 IM in 4:02.35 for the RC men while Ryan Franceys placed second in the 200 free in 1:39.27.

Washington & Lee won both the men’s and women’s ODAC championships. The RC men were third among nine schools competing and the women were fourth among 10.

RC softball at Moyer Complex Sat.

The Roanoke College softball team is looking to get into the win column when the Maroons host William Peace University in their home opener this Saturday. Roanoke will host the Pacers in a 1 pm doubleheader at the James I. Moyer Complex in Salem.

The Maroons opened the season in Greensboro, NC last Saturday and dropped a pair to the host Pride, 3-2 and 3-1.

In the opener Baylee Compton threw 5 2/3 innings, striking out eight. Heather McQueeney had two hits and scored twice.

Claire Warden started in the circle in the nightcap and allowed two earned runs over four innings with three strikeouts. Grace Clary worked two scoreless innings in relief. McQueeney again had two hits, going 4-for-8 on the day.

Roanoke College baseball team will play four home games against Alfred University this weekend

The Roanoke College baseball team will open the 2026 home season with four games at Salem Memorial Ballpark this week. The Maroons will play Alfred University in a Saturday doubleheader, beginning at 11 am, then play two more against Alfred on Sunday with the first pitch scheduled for 11 am again.

After a Wednesday season opener at Greensboro College the Maroons will play 13 straight games at home, taking advantage of the ballpark being available prior to the Salem RidgeYaks Carolina League season. Next Wednesday, February 25, they have a 1 pm game against Greensboro College and Saturday the 28th they host William Peace University for two. The ODAC opener is at home on March 7th against Bridgewater College.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Left Colby Thompson of Roanoke College, a Glenvar High grad, competes in the triple jump at the Joe LaRocco Invitational in Salem Saturday. Right, Nolanda Henderson of RC wins the 60 dash with a season's best time.

Salem's Jones is Region 4D hurdles champ

The Salem High track team competed in the Region 4D indoor meet at the Edward Long Facility in Penn Laird, VA on Monday and the boys’ team finished fifth. The top three in each event qualified for the state indoor meet at Liberty University on March 2nd and 3rd.

The boys’ had a region champion in DaVon Jones, who won the 55 meter hurdles in 7.82 seconds. Tristan Noel took third in the 500 while Aedon Wiley was sixth in the 300 and Austin Prosser took eighth in the 1,000.

Salem had three relay teams finish in the top three, including a region champion with the 4x400 team of Nick Baxley, Fergens Ciril, Keenan Helm and Jones. The 4x200 team of Baxley, Jones, ji'Zayiah Johnson and Wiley took second and the 4x800 foursome of Grant Horner, Thomas Sharp, Prosser and John Stovall was third.

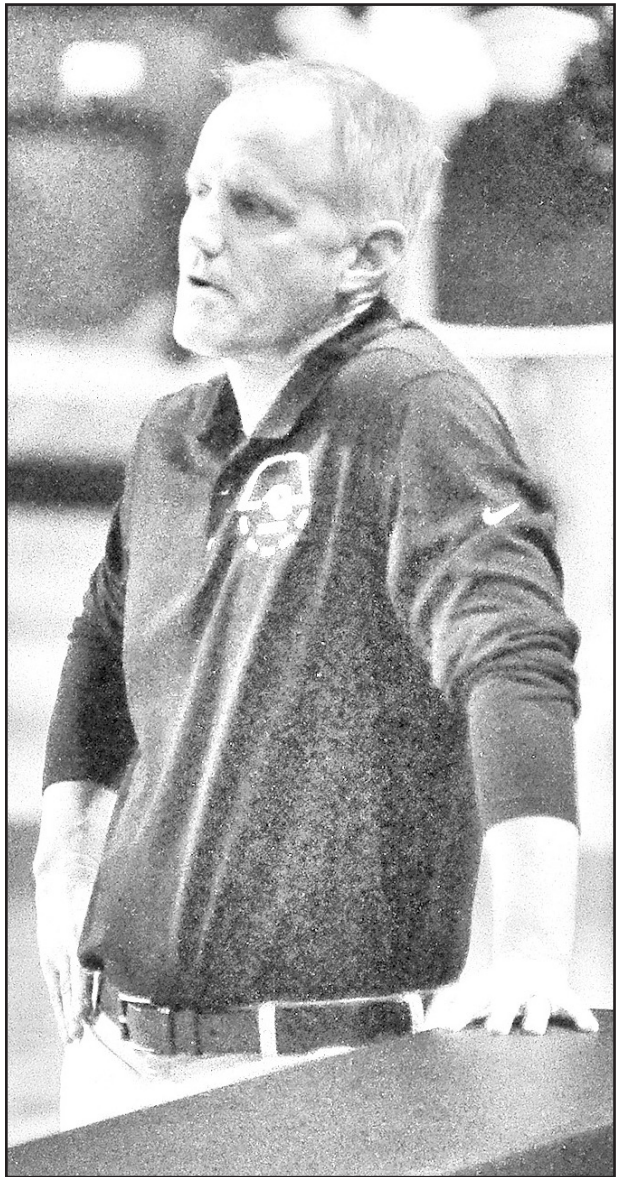
For the girls, the 4x800 relay team of McKenzie Eversole, Addison Hancock, Olivia Huff and Audrey Harmon placed third and qualified for the state meet. That earned the girls six points and a 13th place finish in the team standings.

Blacksburg High School swept the team championships, winning both the boys and girls Region 4D crowns.

Region track is at RC

The Kerr-Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse at Roanoke College will be the site for the Region 3D and Region 2C track meets this weekend.

The Region 3D meet will be held on Saturday at RC, beginning at 9 am. The Region 2C meet, including athletes from Glenvar, will begin at 11 am Sunday.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Left, RC's Marcus Morgan floats one to the hoop in Saturday's win over Shenandoah. Above, Maroon coach Clay Nunley won his 300th game as a college head coach in the win over the Hornets.

Maroons beat Shenandoah for Nunley's 300th win

The Roanoke College men's basketball team will open the Old Dominion Athletic Conference tournament at home next Tuesday against an opponent to be determined. At press time the Maroons were in third place in the ODAC standings with two games to go.

The top eight teams in the 12 team ODAC make the post-season tournament with the top four getting a home game for the quarterfinals. The semifinals and final are at the Salem Civic Center on February 27 and March 1.

As of Tuesday the Maroons were in third place with a 10-4 conference record, with Randolph-Macon and Virginia Wesleyan tied for first at 12-2 each. Lynchburg was fourth at 9-5 and the Maroons were scheduled to host the Hornets on Wednesday. An RC win would clinch third but a Lynchburg win

would give Roanoke and Lynchburg 10-5 records each in the ODAC and a split of the season series, so a tie-breaker would ensue.

Roanoke's final game of the regular season is Saturday at home against Randolph, who is just 1-13 in ODAC games. Lynchburg will host Virginia Wesleyan Saturday so that could be a factor in the final standings as well.

Who the Maroons would open with is anyone's guess. Washington & Lee, Hampden-Sydney and Averett are all possibilities but it won't be known until after Saturday's games are concluded.

The Maroons had a chance to clinch third place last week but were upset by Guilford in Salem, 89-85, on February 11. The Maroons bounced back with a 62-57 win over Shenandoah at the Cregger Center on Saturday afternoon to hold on to the

third spot. The win was the 300th career coaching win for RC coach Clay Nunley, who has a 300-193 record with stints at Randolph College and Roanoke College. Now in his 10th season at RC Nunley has a 177-77 record with the Maroons.

Roanoke held just a two-point lead at the half against Shenandoah but a 24-9 run in the second half opened a 55-38 lead with just under seven minutes to go. A late rally by the Hornets came up short as Roanoke held on for the win.

RC senior Marcus Morgan had 21 points, 10 rebounds, four assists and two steals, shooting 8-of-12 from the floor. Gavin O'Malley had 11 points and five rebounds and Jackson Bell netted nine points with three steals.

At 17-6 overall the Maroons are ranked 21st nationally in Division III.

Zimmerman picks up 1st win as RC lacrosse coach as Maroons top MWU

First year Roanoke College lacrosse coach Grant Zimmerman won his first game at the helm last Saturday as the Maroons took a 17-8 win over Mary Washington in Fredricksburg.

Roanoke started strong, scoring the first five goals of the match with Julian Kammerman contributing two in that stretch. Kammerman led the Maroons with four goals and three assists on the day.

Four Maroons scored multiple goals, Patrick Cullen with three while Tyler Schmelzer, Jack

Savoie, and Clayton Bewick had two each.

Ike Dutton led the Maroons defensively with seven ground balls and caused four turnovers. Noah Elazar scooped five groundballs and goalie David Hamilton made 17 saves in goal in his first collegiate contest.

The Maroons were scheduled to play their home opener on Wednesday against Averett but results were too late for publication. That was also RC's first Old Dominion Athletic Conference game.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Zoe Blair of Roanoke College, and Salem, works the ball around the perimeter in the Maroons season opening win Saturday.

Lax women win opener

Juniors Maddie McDonald, Zoe Blair, and Kendall Todd all tied career highs as the Roanoke College women's lacrosse team opened their season with a 17-9 win over St. Mary's College of Maryland Saturday at Kerr Stadium in Salem..

The Maroons struck first with a pair of goals and then used a four-goal run to get out to a 7-3 advantage over SMCM. RC led 9-5 at the half and outscored St. Mary's 8-4 after intermission to put it away.

McDonald tied her career high in goals with seven and also led the squad in draw controls and ground balls with seven and three. Blair, a Salem High grad, also tied a career high with five goals and goalie Kendall Todd tied her career high in saves with 14.

The Maroons will head to Newport News this Saturday to take on Christopher Newport at 3 pm.

VB men top VWU

The Roanoke College men's volleyball team defeated Virginia Wesleyan Tuesday, 3-0, to improve to 6-3 on the season and 3-0 in ODAC matches.



Moriah Tate of Roanoke College works the ball against a Shenandoah defender at RC Saturday.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Maroon women on the bubble for ODAC basketball tourney

The Old Dominion Athletic Conference women's basketball tournament is just a week away and the Roanoke College team is on the bubble. The top eight teams in the 12 team conference make the post-season tournament and the Maroons were tied for eighth with two games to go.

Roanoke and Lynchburg both had 5-9 records prior to Wednesday's games, when the Maroons were scheduled to play at Lynchburg. A win would move the Maroons into eighth place with both teams playing on Saturday, RC at home against 11-3 Randolph-Macon and Lynchburg at 0-14 Eastern Mennonite. If Roanoke and Lynchburg end up tied for the eighth spot it would go to a tie-breaker as the two teams would have split during the regular season if the Maroons won Wednesday.

The ODAC tournament opens at the sites of the top four schools on Wednesday, February 25. Washington & Lee, Bridgewater and Randolph-Macon are one, two and three with Guilford and Shenandoah tied for the fourth spot. The ODAC semifinals and finals are at the Salem Civic Center on February 28 and March 1.

Roanoke is 11-12 overall after splitting two games at home last week. The Maroons beat Averett, 63-48, but lost to Shenandoah University on Saturday, 71-61. Nadia Snesev and Mariah Cain had 11 points each to lead RC against Shenandoah while Cecilia Robinson had nine rebounds.



Salem High players and fans from the student section celebrate on the floor after Cam Boles(center in photo) rebounded a miss and scored with two seconds to go in Salem's win over Hidden Valley Tuesday night.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Spartans open region hoops with girls-boys doubleheader

The Region 4D basketball tournament is set to begin next week and Salem High is set to host a girls-boys doubleheader on Monday in the South half of the split bracket. The girls will open play against a team still to be



Salem High girls coach Scott Jester studies the action at a recent game while assistant Brad Bradley looks on.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

determined at 6 pm Monday followed by the boys at 7:30 pm, who will likely play George Washington of Danville.

The girls are the top seed in the tournament and will be home for as long as they win in the region. The South final is February 25 and the South and North winners meet for the Region 4D championship on Friday, February 27.

The Salem boys are the number two seed behind E.C. Glass and G.W.-Danville is the third seed. If the Spartans win Monday they would travel to Lynchburg to play Glass next Wednesday, providing the Hilltoppers win their opening game Monday night. If Glass is upset and Salem wins then the Spartans would be home, and the boys' South-North final is also on February 27.

Both the girls and boys teams played Hidden Valley on Tuesday after a full week of rest. The girls won 64-16 to up their record to 21-1 and put some icing on the River Ridge District championship. Emme Custer had 18 points, Lexie Hart had a bakers' dozen and Bailey Rider had 11

The boys played host to the Titans and won a thriller, 69-67, on a stick back by Camden Boles with two seconds left in the game. The win improved Salem's record to 18-3 on the season and avenged a prior loss to Hidden Valley in south Roanoke County.

Salem led for most of the game and took a 49-42 lead into the fourth quarter. However, Hidden Valley went

on a 10-2 run to open the quarter and take a 52-51 lead with five and a half minutes to go.

At this point Salem's Elijah Paddyfote took over. The sharp-shooting Spartan scored 11 points in the final five minutes, including three three-pointers, the last putting the Spartans up 66-60 with two minutes to go.

However, it wasn't over just yet. The Titans battled back to tie the game on two free throws with 10.7 remaining. Salem got the ball in quickly and Tanner Overstreet raced down the floor. He got to the rim only to have his layup attempt spill off the front, but Boles was trailing the play and rebounded the ball and laid it in with two seconds on the clock. Hidden Valley couldn't get off a shot and the Salem student section exploded onto the floor and enveloped the Spartans in celebration.

"Just like we drew it up," said Salem coach Kevin Garst with a chuckle. "Games like that make you better. It was a playoff environment. They made some tough shots, too, but our guys played with poise in the fourth quarter."

Paddyfote led four Spartans in double figures with 18 points. Braylon Smith had 14, Overstreet had 13 and Boles finished with 11.

Both the girls and boys have one more game to play before the Region 4D tournament begins. The boys will play at Christiansburg tonight while the girls host the Blue Demons in Salem.

Glenvar boys win at Floyd

The Glenvar High boys will open the Region 2C basketball tournament on the road this Friday against an opponent that was yet to be determined at press time. Martinsville, Floyd County and Liberty are possible first round opponents but that won't be decided until all regular season games conclude this week.

The Highlanders had two games this week to end the regular season.

On Tuesday they beat Floyd County on the road, 63-58, to even their record at 11-11 overall and 7-4 in the tough Three Rivers District. They had a game at home against Carroll County on Wednesday but results were too late for publication.

"Great team win on the road," said Glenvar coach Hank Luton of the Floyd game. "We battled on the backboard and that was the difference.

Credit Gray Hutchison and Evan Harris for guarding their bigs and rebounding defensively all night."

Jax Bolling led Glenvar with 23 points and Parker Doolan had 20.

"I'll take our two lead guards, Jax and Parker, over anyone in our area," said Luton. "They made plays tonight when we needed it."

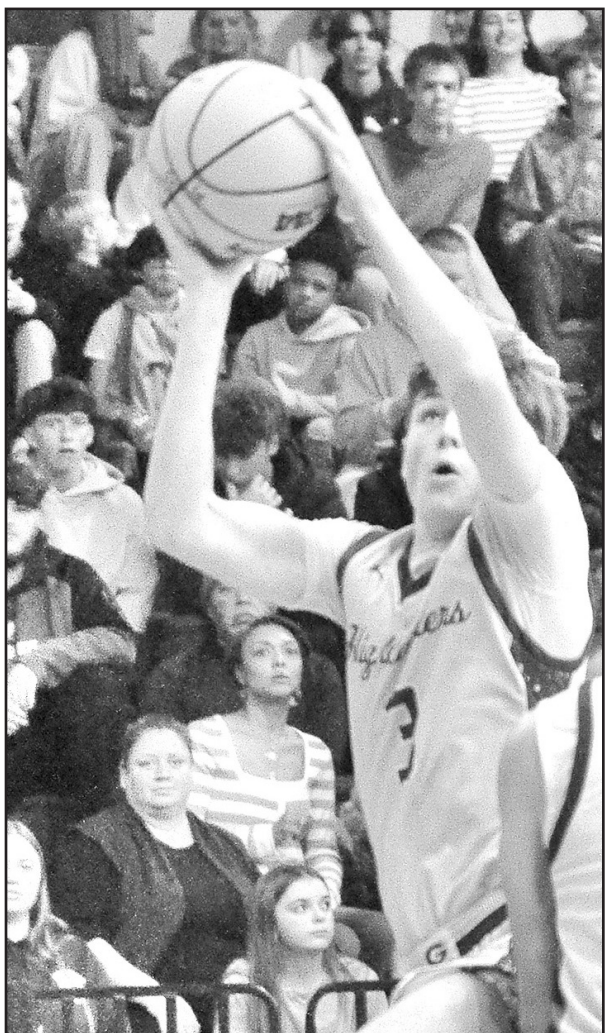
The Highlanders were at Martinsville last Thursday where they dropped a 76-50 decision to the Bulldogs. Martinsville came into this week at 18-3 and the 'dogs finished their Three Rivers schedule with a perfect 12-0 record.

Glenvar didn't go down easy. The Highlanders trailed by just two points late in the first half before Martinsville finished the half on a run.

"We turned it over a few times and gave up a few offensive rebounds and it's a 13 point deficit at half," said Luton. "We couldn't keep pace in the second half. Credit to Martinsville, they are very athletic and well coached. They should be the favorite in Class 2."

Bolling led Glenvar with 17 points. Doolan and Ryder Francisco had 11 each as the Highlanders scrapped to the final horn.

"I loved the way our kids competed and battled throughout in a great environment," said Luton. "We are hoping to get another crack at them in the postseason."



Gray Hutchison had a big game in the paint in Glenvar's win over Floyd Tuesday.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Glenvar's Zella Hayes(#22) and Reagan Duncan(#3) battle for a rebound in Monday's game with Giles.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Giles rallies to down Glenvar girls

The Glenvar girls made a run at ending their four-season losing streak Monday but let it slip away down the stretch. The Highlanders lost to Giles at home Monday, 49-33, then fell to Floyd Tuesday, 49-35, to see their losing streak reach 62 games. Audrey Moles had 23 points against Floyd.

Monday's game was close for three quarters. Giles had only won two games this season and Glenvar had an 18-14 lead at the half. The Spartans scored the first eight points of the second half to take the lead but the Highlanders scrapped back to tie the game at 28-28 after three quarters.

Unfortunately, the fourth quarter was a disaster for the Glenvar girls as they saw their opportunity to end the streak slip away. Giles had just a 30-29 lead with five and a half minutes to go but finished on a 19-4 run.

"We definitely had a shot," said Glenvar coach Cheryl Hayes, who is still looking for her first GHS coaching win in her second season at the helm. "Giles played a great second half and we weren't able to convert on their turnovers when it mattered."

Moles led Glenvar with 11 points and Grace Fiedler had eight, including a couple threes.

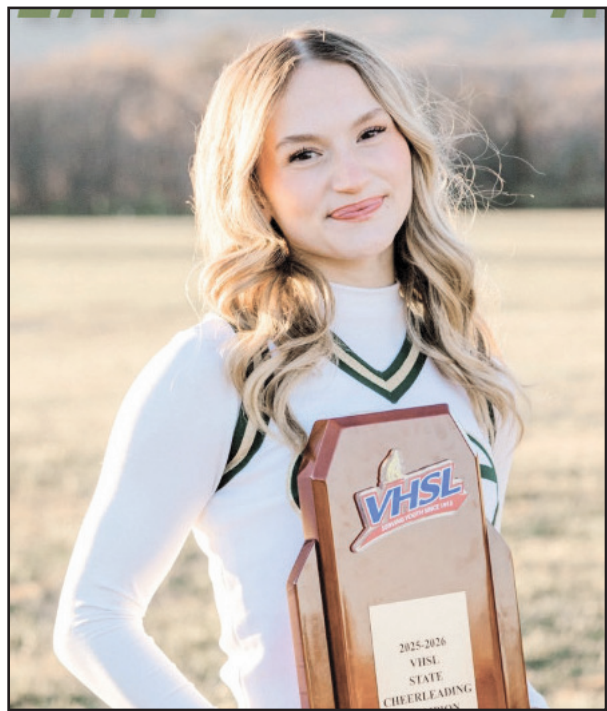
On Tuesday the girls played their final home game against Floyd and lost to the traditionally strong Buffalo gals. The Highlanders had one more chance to end the streak on Wednesday with their last regular season game against Carroll County but results were too late for publication. The Cavaliers have just three wins and Glenvar only lost by five when the two met in Roanoke County. A win would be a great way to end what has been another frustrating season for the Glenvar girls.

SPORTS



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PHOTOS COURTESY GHS CHEERLEADING

ADDISON SNEAD

Glenvar has 5 on all-state cheer team, Snead, Hatfield receive top honors

The Virginia High School League has announced the 2025 Class 2 all-state competition cheer team and Glenvar High School received the top honors. Glenvar senior Addison Snead is the Class 2 Player of the Year and Glenvar head coach Sarah Hatfield is the Class 2 Coach of the Year. In addition four other Highlanders made the first team, senior Morgan Gaines, junior Elle Graffeo and freshmen Audree Frantz and Abby Woods.

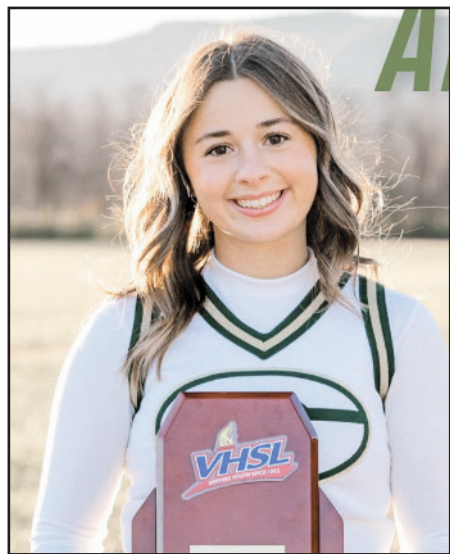
Hatfield and Snead guided Glenvar to the 2025 Class 2 state cheer championship for the first time in program history. The Highlanders finished runners-up in 2023 and 2024. In this year's 2025 finals at VCU, judges awarded Glenvar 241.25 points, one point ahead of Graham's 240.25. Poquoson was third and Strasburg finished fourth.

"Addison has distinguished herself as an exceptional competitive cheerleader and student leader," said coach Hatfield of Snead. "During her time with the program, she has been named Regional Cheerleader of the Year twice, earning the honor

in both 2023 and 2025. Addison is known for her diligence, strong work ethic and her ability to inspire teammates through her consistently positive, lead-by-example attitude. She has played a vital role in Glenvar's continued success and has helped set a standard for underclassmen striving to excel within the program.

"Beyond her accomplishments on the mat, Addison fully embodies the role of a student-athlete," added Hatfield. "While balancing her extracurricular commitments, she maintains a nearly perfect GPA and is actively involved in multiple organizations, including 4-H and BETA Club."

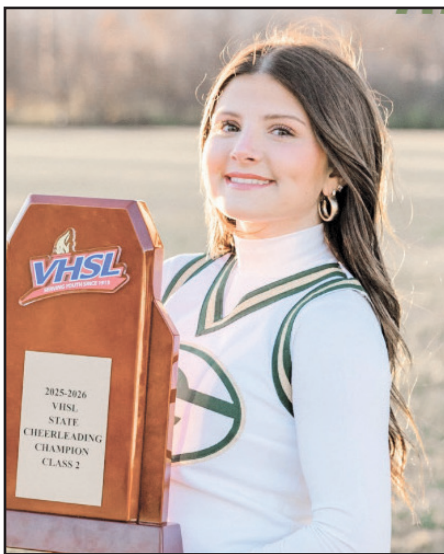
The top 10 athletes from each first-team all-region squad qualify for all-state consideration. Of those 10 the top five, determined by ranking, make the all-state first team, while the next five are placed on the second team. The highest-rated cheerleader among the state championship team, which was Snead, is named Player of the Year, and the coach of that team, Hatfield, is named Coach of the Year.



MORGAN GAINES



ELLE GRAFFEO



AUDREE FRANTZ



ABBY WOODS

Highlanders are Region 2C wrestling champs, send 7 to Salem CC mats

The Glenvar wrestling team is headed to the state tournament this weekend, and they won't have to go far. The state Class 1, 2 and 3 tournaments are all at the Salem Civic Center Friday and Saturday.

Glenvar will go as Region 2C champs after winning the region tournament at Liberty High School last Saturday. The Highlanders put six individual champs on the top step of the podium in Bedford and will take seven wrestlers to the Civic Center this week.

"Our state tournament goal is to finish top three and score more than 103.5 points, which is what we scored last year," said coach Tim Miles.

Last Saturday Glenvar scored 185 points to win the region with limited wrestlers in the heavier weight classes. Host Liberty was second with second with 154 and Patrick County was third with 148 points among the 10 schools competing.

Region champions for Glenvar

include Jack Yetzer at 106, Nick Yetzer at 113, Levi Wright at 144, Haden Henderson at 150, Jack Osburn at 157 and John Vishneski at 165. The top three in each weight class advance to the state and Carter Graffeo finished third at 120 to qualify for this weekend's event. Jacob Long was fourth at 126 and Miles Wigfall took fifth at 190, scoring points for the Highlanders but not advancing.

State tournament bouts in Salem begin this Friday at 10 am with 28 first round matches. The Class 1-3 quarterfinals and first round consolation matches for Class 3 will go from 1 to 4 pm. Then, after a 30 minute break, second round consolation matches begin at 4:30 pm. Class 3 quarter-final consolation matches will be from 7-8 pm while Class 1 and 2 quarterfinal consolations are from 7:30 to 9 pm.

Weigh-ins for all classes will be at 8 am Saturday followed by semifinals for all three classes beginning at 9:30 am.



Glenvar's Haden Henderson(left) is one of six region champs headed to the state tournament at the Salem Civic Center this weekend.

PHOTO BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Semifinal consolation matches begin at 11:30 am, consolation finals are at 1 pm and the championship finals are

scheduled for 4:30 pm and will run until approximately 7:30 pm followed by team awards.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem High wrestlers who qualified for the state tournament include, front row left to right; Anthony Baudanza, Derek Bush, Patrick Patterson and Sayge Herndon. Back row, left to right; Jake James, Jake Preston, alternate Keegan Price and Giuseppe Baudanza. Kolynn Eastman is not pictured.

Spartans look for best finish yet at Class 4 wrestling tournament

Salem High has high hopes as seven wrestlers head to the Class 4 state tournament in Virginia Beach this weekend. The tournament will be held Friday and Saturday at the Virginia Beach Sports Complex.

"We have seven athletes headed to state and three of them have medaled there," said Salem coach Lawrence Van Liew. "Five of the seven have been to the state tournament before, so this is a very experienced post season group."

Salem is sending three region champs to the beach, Derek Bush at 120, Anthony Baudanza at 132 and Jake James at heavy-weight. Others in the tournament include Sayge Herndon at 106, Patrick Patterson at 113, Kolynn Eastman at 126, Giuseppe Baudanza at 138 and Jake Preston at 215. The Spartans were runner-up to James Wood in the recent Region 4D tournament and aim to place high in the state.

"Every practice we breakdown with, 'state champs,' so that is the ultimate goal for each individual, and for the team," said Van Liew. "The highest place we have had as a team came in 2020 when we finished sixth. This year we have the potential to finish in the top five as a team."

Salem has had a good year and hopes to finish strong.

"My goal is four finalists and 3 placers," said Van Liew. "We have enough potential to have the highest team place we have ever had. How you finish one season is how the next one begins. We plan to finish this season, or start the next season very strong."

State Swim meets are at Richmond pool this week

Glenvar boys are region champs

The SwimRVA facility in Richmond will be site of Virginia High School League state swim meets this week and both Glenvar and Salem High students will be competing. The Class 1 and 2 meets, including Glenvar, were scheduled for Wednesday and the Class 4 meet with Salem swimmers is scheduled for Friday.

Salem qualified six individuals and two relay teams for the Class 4 meet when the boys took fourth and the girls were 11th in Region 4D meet at Liberty University on February 7th. Glenvar competed in the Region

1C/2C meet at the Hargrave Military Academy pool in Chatham last week and had a big day as the boys won the region championship and the girls finished sixth.

The Highland boys finished with 121.5 points to win the meet, securing the crown with dominant relay performances and strong scoring depth across the meet. Glenvar swept all three boys relays as Avery Thompson, Landon Cairns, Aspen Thompson and Brendan Miller won the 200 medley relay, Avery

continued on page 9